



A Community Water Watch Update

The Newsletter for the Monroe County Community Water Watch Program

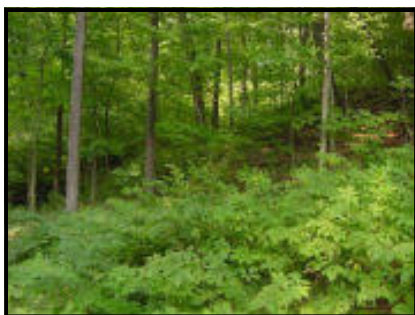
Spring 2004

Training Session Planned for Oatka Creek Park



All new and continuing Community Water Watch volunteers are invited to attend a training session scheduled for Saturday, April 3rd from 10:00 a.m. until noon at the newly renovated Oatka Lodge in beautiful Oatka Creek Park.

Our knowledgeable trainers will be providing great information regarding stormwater runoff and how it affects water quality, stream hydrology, educational outreach opportunities, and benthic macroinvertebrate identification. We hope you will plan to join us for a great spring (hopefully) morning learning about water quality monitoring along the banks of Oatka Creek. We will provide light refreshments. Please dress for the weather.



If you have never visited Oatka Creek Park, the training session will be a great opportunity to experience this very special park. Oatka Creek is famous for its clean waters and trout. The park is located in the southern portion of Monroe County in the Town of Wheatland, south of Route 383 (Scottsville Road), west of County Road 170 (Union Street). Enter the park from Union Street south of Scottsville Road. The Oatka Lodge is located at the end of the entrance road.

If you have any question about the training session please contact Todd Stevenson at 274-7638 or Kimie Romeo at 703-4690. We hope to see you there.





Low Cost Trees Available for Your Stream Conservation Projects!!!



The trees, shrubs, and other plants that grow along the streambank are very important to the health of your stream. This vegetation minimizes erosion, filters stormwater runoff, and provides shelter and food for wildlife. Trees also shade the stream, thus maintaining proper stream temperature for fish and other organisms.

Every spring, the Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District offers low cost trees and shrubs for sale for conservation projects. If you have a location along your stream that needs to be re-vegetated, we would encourage you to contact the District at 473-2120 ext. 3 for information. You can also access their catalog online at www.monroecountyswcd.org. Orders are due by March 22nd but they also have an overstock sale on April 17th.

And please remember, you will need permission from the property owner before you can do any planting.

Make Your Lawn Environmentally Friendly

Homeowners throughout Monroe County are learning how to maintain their lawns in an environmentally friendly manner and protect water quality. The Great Lawns/Great Lakes (GL/GL) program is a joint effort of Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Monroe Co. Health Dept., and the Water Education Collaborative. The following GL/GL presentations are free and open to the public and provide an excellent introduction to environmentally friendly lawn care practices. Please contact Kimie Romeo at 703-4690 for additional information or directions.

World Water Day in Ellison Park	9:00—11:30 am March 23, 2004
West Ridge Neighborhood Watch	7:00 pm March 25, 2004
Science Fair at School #1	6:00—8:30 pm March 24, 2003
Audubon Society Brighton Town Hall	7:30 pm March 25, 2004
Perennial Society Cornell Cooperative Ext.	7:00 pm April 1, 2004
Spencerport School Science Night	6:00—8:30 pm April 7, 2004
Ogden Farmers Market	7:00 pm April 8, 2004
Science Saturdays Rochester Museum Science Center	April 17, 2004
Earth Day	April 22, 2004
United Way Day of Caring	April 29, 2004
Arbor Day Celebration	April 30, 2004
Our Fragile World Seneca Park Zoo	May 7 & 8, 2004
Greece Public Library	May 11, 2004